

Presentation to Public Health and Human Services Committee

Board and Care Homes & the City of Austin

**Presented by
Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department**

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March 20, 2012



Brief History of HB 216 Initiative

- 2009 - HB 216 passes, directs HHSC to develop standards.
- 8/2010 – HHSC approves model standards.
- 9/2010, City forms Planning and Advisory Team.
- 4-5/2011 Public Meetings conducted.
- 9/2011- 2/2012 Additional Stakeholder meetings held.
- 4/2011- 2/2012 Barriers and issues identified by stakeholders and city partners.
- Ongoing – Interdepartmental and Executive level meetings continue planning and developing a proposal.



Draft Definition

A **“Board and Care Home”** means an establishment that:

furnishes, in one or more dwelling units at a site, lodging to more than six and no more than 16 elderly and/or disabled persons who are unrelated to the owner/operator of the establishment by blood or marriage;

and provides for lodgers one or more services such as; community meals, light housework, meal preparation, transportation, grocery shopping, money management, laundry services, or assistance with self-administration of medication, but does not provide personal care services to those persons.



Voluntary Registration

Establishing a voluntary registration of all Board and Care Homes. Board and Care Homes would have the following options:

1. Obtain a license as a “Boarding Home” or “Rooming House” from Code Compliance Department under Ch. 25-12-213 of the City Code.
2. Register as a Board and Care Home with HHSD

Followed by development of a voluntary certification program for registered homes that meet select operational standards and maintain good standing based on established criteria.



Reasonable Accommodation

It is in the best interests of the city, the residents of these homes, the operators, and the general public to grant reasonable accommodations to owner/operators to prevent the unnecessary closure of these homes.

Proposed Process:

When a Board and Care Home owner/operator applies for an operating license from the Code Compliance Department or applies for the Board and Care Home registry with HHSD, the applicant may apply for “reasonable accommodations” by filing a request with the City Clerk’s office.

- A panel composed of a representative from Health, Fire, Code and/or Building Inspections will review the application.
- An initial site visit to assess the property may be required.
- Applicants denied accommodation may appeal the denial.





Questions?

